

REMARKS

Claims 1, 23, 41, 45, 50-52, and 54 have been amended. The amendments to claims 45, 50-52, and 54, which were presented in Applicants' response to the Office Action mailed February 22, 2006, but which were not entered, have been presented again. Claims 1, 23, and 41 have been amended pursuant to the Examiner's suggestion in the Advisory Action mailed September 27, 2006 that the claims be amended to recite a homogeneous polypeptide in order to distinguish the recited polypeptide from the polypeptide disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,695,953 and 5,981,701. New claims 63-65, which were presented in Applicants' response to the Office Action mailed February 22, 2006, but which were not entered, have been presented again. Claims 1, 23, 41, 42, 45-48, and 50-62 are pending in the instant application. No new matter has been added as a result of the above-described amendments.

Applicants respectfully contend that all conditions of patentability are met in the pending claims as amended. Allowance of the claims is thereby respectfully solicited. If Examiner O'Hara believes it to be helpful, she is invited to contact the undersigned representative by telephone at 312-913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

Dated: October 23, 2006

By: /Donald L. Zuhn, Jr./
Donald L. Zuhn, Jr., Ph.D.
Reg. No. 48,710